the Lions' Pride

Of Saint Leo University

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Promotions All Around

This is no pretty image as students at Saint Leo University feel the effects of a terrorist attack in our own nation.

by Jessica Williams
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

SAINT LEO – When people have a job, they aspire for success. This dream came true for Gary Bracken and Frank Mezzanini. Both were given vice president positions.

Bracken, formerly the dean of admission and financial aid, is now vice president of enrollment. Bracken has been at Saint Leo University for five years.

"The president's recommendation is that we needed to manage enrollment of the whole university rather than in parts. The first step is making enrollment management a big part," explained Bracken about how the position came about.

The new position dealing with enrollment includes the University College, but also Graduate Studies, Weekend and Evening, new freshman, transfer students, and the other Saint Leo Centers. Bracken is the main marketer for the University through the use of television, news, radio, and direct mail. As always the main focus is recruiting new students, and managing financial aid concerns.

There is also a new Master's of Arts in Psychology program that starts in the fall. Bracken is in charge of advertising for this new program.

To recruit students, Bracken has a few things planned for this semester. There will be an Honors Weekend, Picture This (where high school students follow a Saint Leo student for the day), regional reception for students and parents, and finally a visit from northern high school guidance counselors.

Bracken's recruitment has

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Tight job market forcing grads to make themselves more marketable

The recent economic recession has left many upcoming graduates unsure about their futures.

Daily News (Ball State U.)

(U-WIRE) MUNCIE, Ind. —

During his second job interview, Ball State University senior Tim Bodnar acted as a travel agent to sell his prospective employers a travel package. Not an easy assignment with the current travel fears.

In reality though, Bodnar was doing something much more difficult. He was selling himself and competing for a job in a market plagued by recession.

The recent economic recession has left many upcoming graduates unsure about their futures. According to Bodnar, a finance major, they must now compete for fewer openings against older, more experienced applicants who have been laid off.

"Not many people are looking to hire you unless you are on the dean's list every semester and Johnny All-American," Bodnar said.

According to a survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employees, hiring for 2002 graduates will be down 20 percent compared to 2001 graduates. Camille Luckenbaugh, employment information manager of the NACE, said she blamed the drop partly on a lack of production and manufacturing demand. Businesses have fewer orders and therefore place fewer orders for employees.

According to Larry Beck, associate director of the Ball State Career Center, companies are taking a wait-and-see attitude with hiring.

As a result, Beck said, students need to become their own career agents and market themselves more aggressively. "Employers want to know what students can do for them," Beck said. "They don't always want to hear students tell them how wonderful it would be for the student to be able to work for their company." Seniors can no longer wait for recruiters to approach them like they could two years ago, Bodnar said. Instead, he is using the Internet to seek them out.

Bodnar said he has recently employed a site that lists around 400 employers in Chicago and Indianapolis. He picked his 10 favorite companies from each city and has sent resumes to them.

Ultimately though, Bodnar said, his most promising possibility has come from old-fashioned networking.

As the former president of the financial management association, Bodnar spoke with a representative of American Express Financial Advisers at an FMA meeting. The conversation eventually resulted in two interviews, and Bodnar said he has scheduled two more with the same company.

He began his job hunt in December, and he said he expects the search to continue for up to another four months. According to Beck, seniors could spend up to 12 months searching for jobs, depending on their willingness to move

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EDITORIALS

Reading Day Injustice

by Allison Myatt
Lions' Pride Co-Editor

Every semester, students complain they have to be in class on Reading Day because the professor has ran over the schedule on the syllabus or just does not believe in giving students a chance to prepare for a test properly.

For those who do not know what Reading Day is, then I will explain it. Reading Day is when all classes are canceled, no matter the excuse, so students can prepare for their final exams.

How students prepare for their finals is up to them because, lets face it, no two students are alike; students prepare for finals in a way that is best for him or her. Whether the student goes to the library for the day or goes to play a round of miniature golf with friends, Reading Day is his or hers to do with as they please.

Since class is canceled, a day at the library or with friends should not matter—unless you are one of those few unlucky students who have a professor who believes he or she can have class on Reading Day.

What might drive a professor to set up class on the only day students are granted to study, sleep, and relax? Some of the main reasons is because the content on the syllabus could not be covered due to scheduling conflicts or the professor just wants to hold class that day. Therefore, the professor requires the student to be in class on Reading Day to learn what is needed for the exams. Great, more information a student needs to know for a final they may have the next day.

If the student has the final the next morning there is hardly enough time for him or her to retain the new information. At the same time, other than the new knowledge that was just crammed into his or her brain, students also have to review previous knowledge for a test in less time than some of the other students.

So, with two strikes against them (class when they should be preparing and new information they will be tested on) students must go into a final exam tired and nervous because they were up all night studying the new information. This can lead to a dangerous strike three also known as failure.

Every student is different. While some students do not mind having class on Reading Day—other students might mind because he or she want to prepare for his or her finals. Reading Day allows for students to study, relax, and prepare for final exams, so no one should be in class learning new material.

Saint Leo's Lacking in Spirit

by Jessica Williams
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Pep rallies, class competitions, and wearing school colors were all a major part of high school life. For some reason, Saint Leo University lacks school spirit.

When entering Saint Leo, I was quite surprised to find that there was no spirit. I get involved and love my school. I am always buying Saint Leo shirts and participating in every school activity that I possibly can.

At sporting events, the attendance is limited to family and a few friends of the players. People should be out supporting their team and school.

When I came to a small school, I expected there would be a lot of school spirit. The main reason behind this lack in spirit is because we do not have a football team. I think this is just an excuse.

Saint Leo has a great array of sports and events that would allow for a person to show his/her school spirit.

The school has class competitions, yet no one attends. Is it because people are afraid of a little competition? If not, then start coming out to the various competitions and events.

Would people join a pep squad or a school spirit club? This was an idea that was actually mentioned last year but never came through. I would just like to see the spirit raised.

How many Saint Leo students know the school's Alma Mater? I admit, neither do I. I knew my high school's Alma Mater because we had lots of pep rallies, and we always sang it.

After reading this, I hope people reevaluate their spirit and pride of Saint Leo. Grab a Saint Leo shirt and show the spirit and pass it on to others.

COLUMN

The Enron Scandal - A Guide for Dummies

By Alex Pieske
Dakota Student (U. North Dakota)

(U-WIRE) GRAND FORKS, N.D. — For those of you who quit watching the news after we dropped the last cluster bomb on Afghanistan, you've missed a delicious little scandal that has not only restored a shred of dignity to our press corps, but has also sent Vice President Dick Cheney running for the coward's shield of Executive Privilege. But you're right, it seems hardly worth the trouble to sift through all of the economic and political mumbo jumbo of the Enron scandal in order to find the truly entertaining tidbits of information. That's why I'm gonna try to break it down for you, so we can all share a good belly laugh at Kenneth Lay and his Krazy Kronies.

First of all, what the hell is an Enron? I went straight to the horse's mouth (from the hilariously out-of-date www.enron.com): "It's difficult to define Enron in a sentence, but the closest we come is this: we make commodity markets so that we can deliver physical commodities to our customers at a predictable price. It's difficult, too, to talk about Enron without using the word 'innovative.' Most of the things we do have never been done before." Innovative, I think so, "never been done," — indeed. With the largest bankruptcy in U.S. history, "innovative" may be modest. But we're getting ahead again.

So how did Enron Corp. go from being named Fortune Magazine's most innovative company six years in a row (wow, they weren't kidding), to the biggest crash-and-burn bankruptcy in U.S. history? Well it seems that they were cooking-the-books, as accountants like to say. That is, they were lying in their accounting records in order to make it seem that they were making much more profit than they actually were. Why? you ask. The why is pretty straightforward. The more profit they show, the more people want to buy their stock. The more people buying their stock, the higher the stock price. Enron executives had a large amount of Enron stock, which is common, and their stock portfolios ballooned along with the artificial profits. When some whistleblowers started making noise about their bad accounting practices, they felt the heat and started to sell off copious amounts of high-priced stock. Enron execs made millions with this slash-and-dash routine and left the other ignorant shareholders and employees out to twist in the wind when the whole company went under, taking employee retirement funds with it.

Perhaps the most heinous moment of this charade occurred when Kenneth Lay, then Enron CEO, made a speech to his employees, telling them that there was nothing to worry about. Keep investing. The stock would pick up again and Enron was showing more profit than ever before. At the same time Lay was dumping his own stock, knowing full well what trouble his employees were in.

Enron files for bankruptcy in late 2001. Then the fun starts. The press starts in on the connection between President Bush and Kenneth Lay. Enron and Lay were huge financial supporters of Bush's campaign; the biggest, in fact. It is revealed that Lay played an integral part in removing the energy czar and replacing him with a more Enron-friendly man. (Hard evidence of the Green/Nader/Chomsky claim that big business runs the government for their own best interest.) Then Thursday it came out that Enron controlled 50-70 percent of the energy commodities responsible for the California Energy Crisis, and may have been responsible for inflating Cali's energy costs. Finally, not only did Enron donate money to Bush and many other Republicans, but they donated generously to the Democrats as well. It seems that every necktie in Washington has had Enron fingerprints on it. That's including the man who is about to sue VP Dick Cheney if he doesn't reveal his dining partners at energy policy meetings: David Walker, currently head of the General Accounting Office, formerly of the Andersen Accounting Agency (an integral member of the Enron cover-up team).

So there's your scandal. Well, that's almost it. Then it gets a bit complicated ... and even more boring. Just like those Republicans.

Acupuncture? What is it?

Acupuncture can help people who suffer from many different types of ailments.

by Jessica Williams
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

SAINT LEO – Stressed out? Looking for something new? Try acupuncture!

Acupuncture is derived from Eastern science and medicine. It balances the energy in a person's body.

Robert and Marion Booker are licensed acupuncture physicians.

Meridian Acupuncture Center, where the Bookers run their own business, is located on Fort King Road.

When asked why he chose acupuncture over Western medicine, Dr. Robert Booker stated that both he and his wife had been surgical assistants for 16 years.

Booker's decision came in a weird way. When his father died, Booker became very ill. He read an article about acupuncture. He figured if he went to doctors around the states, he would just be given medication.

Booker decided to try the acupuncture, and it worked like magic.

"I fell in love," describes Booker's feeling about his choice to become a licensed acupuncture physician.

It was then that Booker realized his heart was no longer into Western medicine, so he changed to acupuncture.

Dr. Marion Booker loved herbs, an important aspect of acupuncture. Booker had worked with herbs most of her life. Being that acupuncture deals with herbs, she decided to switch to acupuncture with her husband to use her experience with herbs.

Acupuncture can help people from all kinds of ailments, including backaches, headaches, migraines, and neck pains.

Many people are turning to acupuncture to help get rid of their desires to smoke and get rid of other habits.

Booker said that people are afraid of acupuncture because people are used to Western needles. When a doctor gives a needle, medicine is injected underneath the skin, which causes the needle to hurt.

However, the needles used in acupuncture are as thin as a hair strand, so the needle does not hurt.

When looking for an acupuncturist, it is important to go into the acupuncture office 100 percent.

It is important that everything is clean and sterilized. A comfort factor is the most important aspect, because people have an intimate relationship with their acupuncturist.

The herbs should be customized in the office, meaning the acupuncturist should have his own pharmacy or easy access to one in the area.

Entering the office, the smell of moxa should be in the air. Moxa is a traditional medical practice of the oriental countries. The moxa is a small cone of dried leaves that are burned on designated points on the body, which are usually placed in the same areas that the acupuncture needles are placed.

A usual session should last one and a half to two hours.

As far as price goes, an initial intake of one and a half to two hours, usually costs anywhere from 125 to 150 dollars.

A follow-up treatment ranges from 50-75 dollars. The price of the herbs that are given to treat the problem for a certain amount of time ranges from five to 25 dollars.

The Bookers, however, offer a free stress reduction or a free 20-minute consultation. The consultation is used to determine what health problems a person has had and to figure out what could possibly be causing the problems the person is faced with now.

The free stress reduction is very beneficial to students during finals. In fact, last year, the Bookers visited Saint Leo University and helped students with their headaches, etc.

Last semester, Dr. Evelyn Vitale, psychologist, had the Bookers come to Saint Leo to speak with the Student Affairs department in DeChantal Hall.

"I was surprised at how relaxed I was after the acupuncture. It was a really great experience," detailed Sarah Hard, Residence Life Graduate Hall Director.

Feel free to call (352) 458-9234. The Bookers would love to help students and faculty anyway they can.

Study Finds Student Dining Habits Changing With Times

PHILADELPHIA—College and university students are changing their eating habits to accommodate their on-the-go lifestyles and are seeking more quality in their campus dining experience, according to a recent survey of college and university students across the country.

The "Current Trends In Campus Dining" study, conducted by ARAMARK Corporation, asked more than 2,300 full-time students, 75 percent who live on campus, about their eating habits and how those habits fit with campus life.

Sixty-four percent of students said they eat on the go — eating ready-to-eat foods or buying fast food — at least a few times a week. Fifty-seven percent of students eat between the hours 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. When asked what barriers exist to eating a meal at breakfast, lunch and dinner, students almost unanimously responded that there is not enough time to get a healthy, balanced meal.

Statistics from the study reflected that the quality of the food is also important to students. Sixty-seven percent agreed they would eat on campus more often if the quality of the food was better; in the study, quality was directly related to freshness. Most students related freshness and quality to home-cooked food.

Nutrition ranked high in priority for students' eating habits. Seventy percent of students are concerned with nutrition in their daily lives, echoing that today's students are active and health-conscious.

The study also suggested that eating is a social occasion at school. Eighty-five percent of students surveyed said they eat with friends more than a few times a week and identified dinner as a time to meet and socialize with friends.

WRITE HERE

Send letters to the editor and guest columns to the Lion's Pride newsroom, Saint Edward's Hall, English Department. Or, send your letter/column by e-mail to monarch@saintleo.com

Letters and columns must be submitted with student's name, year and major. Faculty & staff members must include rank and department.

Please include a phone number (not for publication) so we can verify authorship. All letters and columns are subject to editing. The Lion's Pride reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

January Horoscopes

by Janet Samancioglu
and Kelley Touchton

Aquarius (Jan.20-Feb.17)
Your inner creativity increases this month, so grab a pen and paper and write a note to that special someone.

Pisces (Feb. 18- March 19)
Watch what you say this month, someone might be close and can hear what you say.

Aries (March 20- April 19)
Stress kicks in this month. Hit the gym to help relieve it or play a practical joke on someone to de-stress yourself.

Taurus (April 20- May 19)
Give yourself a treat this month, because you have been working really hard.

Gemini (May 20- June 20)
A simple conversation may turn into a screaming match. Be careful how you phrase things, especially with your friends.

Cancer (June 21- July 21)
You will be coming into some money this month, so watch what you spend it on or it will be gone before you know it.

Leo (July 22- Aug. 22)
Avoid clingy people this month. Mercury inspires your need to be independent.

Virgo (Aug. 23- Sept. 21)
Make peace with your roommate on the 22nd of this month, because it looks as if a battle is in your future.

Libra (Sept. 22- Oct. 22)
Snap out of it and start the week off with a bang. Get started on that paper you have been putting of and clean your room. You will feel much better once you have everything in place.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 –Nov. 21)
Slow down! Take some time off to escape and rejuvenate yourself. You need to have some alone time or else you will go crazy.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22- Dec. 20)
A backstabbing friend is seeking your forgiveness around the 11th of this month. Be careful because she just might do it again.

Capricorn (Dec. 21- Jan 19)
When you get caught in a fight with your friends, don't worry, branch off and meet some new ones that won't be mean to you.

Economy to bounce back in near future, analysts say

Daily Trojan (U. Southern California)

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES — Although the recession following Sept. 11 has given students reason to worry, experts predict the job market will rebound.

The recession will only last until the second quarter of 2002, according to Ross DeVol, director of regional studies and author of the Milken Institute report.

Thirty-seven percent of recruiters said they were revising their recruiting projections downward, according to the National Association of Colleges Employers' Job Outlook 2002 report. Still, new-hire plans indicate only an additional 1.6 percent decline from their July 2001 projections.

But until the economy is back on track, students will have to distinguish themselves from other job seekers. Career counselors have been encouraging students to start their job search early, attend professional organizational meetings and participate in informational interviews, said Suzanne O'Connor Alcantara, assistant director of career development at Annenberg School for Communication.

"We've been advising students to take a creative approach to their job search and be patient," Alcantara said.

Students also need to be flexible, Marilyn Mackes, executive director of NACE, an association that conducts employer surveys yearly, told the Los Angeles Times.

"To maximize their options, students need to be flexible about salary, about commuting time, about the industry or company they'll work for, even about job duties," Mackes said.

Students need to lower their expectations first, said Dianne Siekmann, acting director of University Career Services at Northwestern University.

But Alcantara said she disagrees with that advice. Instead, she encourages them to be realistic when searching for their first job after college and to remember that the first job is not their final career destination.

"It's the personal connections through networking and the personal experience gained through internships that's going to make the difference for new grads this year," Eileen Kohan, executive director of USC's Career Planning and Placement Center, told the Los Angeles Times.

Jennifer Landon, a graduate student in communication management who is in her last semester in the master's program, said if she did not attend USC, she would be worried.

"USC has the best networking system and a solid reputation in this country," she said.

Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies Hosts Conference March 3 - 4

SAINT LEO, FLA. - On March 3-4 the Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies (CCJS) hosts its fifth annual conference entitled "Divergence and Convergence in the Jewish-Catholic Encounter." The conference will be held at Saint Leo University in Saint Leo, Fla., 30 miles north of Tampa.

The two-day event features four keynote presenters and seminars and breakout sessions, focusing on the first and 21st century of Jewish-Catholic relations. The historical perspective and the practical and pastoral consequences of those relations will be discussed. The keynote speakers will present the following seminars:

- Dr. Mary C. Boys, author of Jewish-Christian Dialogue: One Woman's Experience and Has God Only One Blessing, "What Would our Ancestors Think? A Contemporary Dialogue Between Jews & Christians."
- Dr. Sarah Tanzer, professor of theology at McCormick Theo logical Seminary, "Why Jews and Christians Differ: The Biblical Roots of Contemporary Misunderstanding."
- Dr. Philip Cunningham, executive director of the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning and adjunct professor of theology at Boston College, "Telling the Christian Story Anew: Implications for Jewish Self-Understanding."
- Dr. Howard Greenstein, director of Judaic and Near Eastern studies at Florida Gulf Coast University, "A Formula for the Future."

The cost for the two-day conference is $95 including meals. To attend either Sunday or Monday only, the cost is $55, also inclusive of meals.

The Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies is a continuing collaboration of the American Jewish Committee and Saint Leo University to promote understanding of Catholic and Jewish traditions through conferences, lectures, publications and other related activities. For additional information on the center or the conference call (352) 588-8597 or email catholic.jewish.center@saintleo.edu or visit the website www.centerforcatholicjewishstudies.org.

Lions' Pride Staff

Co-Editors - Allison Myatt and Jay Kubica
Layout Design - Shane Metzler
Writers:
Janice Burford
Amanda Lindsey
Mark Relano (Music Reviews)
Curtis Robinson (Movie Reviews)
Janet Samancioglu
Kelley Touchton
Jessica Williams
Advisors:
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Promotions Con't

been paying off. The class of 2005 is 28 percent larger than the entering freshman class last year.

Dr. Arthur Kirk, president of the University describes his confidence in Bracken's new position, "the promotion recognizes his [Bracken] expanded role and responsibilities as well as his excellent performance. Gary too has always put students needs first and been faithful to Saint Leo's mission, values, and vision. Long a member of my administrative team, he has always been an excellent and enthusiastic team member."

Mezzanini has been Interim Vice President for Business Affairs since June of last year, after Benjamin Donnatelli resigned. Now he is the vice president and has many things planned.

Mezzanini is in charge of the business operations for Saint Leo, which includes finances, physical plant, security, information technology, the bookstore, and outsourced contracts.

Mezzanini was instrumental in the successful negotiation with Apple Computers to bring the iBooks to residential students.

"My focus has and will continue to be the financial stability of the University. There are only two ways to obtain this goal. The first is to be as efficient as possible in our expenditures, and the second is to increase the amount of resources we have available, explains Mezzanini."

Mezzanini feels that with the financial stability at hand and help he has from the faculty and staff, then the improvement in education will continue to expand.

Mezzanini has seventeen years of experience from Cazonovia College, a small college outside Syracuse, New York.

"He [Mezzanini] provides us with a great deal of enthusiasm for our mission, values, vision and especially our students. He has impressed all of us since last June with his students first priorities, and open and enthusiastic teamwork and colleagueship," stated Dr. Kirk.

"As we improve, the number of students attending the University increases, and this creates more resources that we can then use to get even better. This is a spiraling upward trend. Based on the number of applications we have for the Fall 2002 semester, we may have a waiting list to get in to Saint Leo," continued Mezzanini.

Saint Leo can expect a great deal of improvement from Bracken and Mezzanini.

Job Market Con't

and take different offers.

To avoid post-graduation unemployment, Beck said students should get started in the job search as soon as possible and build it into their weekly schedule. Beck said to gain related career experience, including internships, early. He also said attending campus and regional job fairs, networking through professional clubs and using Web sites such as monstertrak.com are helpful.

Bodnar said he puts eight extra hours a week toward his job search and compares it to having two extra classes.

"It sucks," he said. "You worry more about finding a job than you do about classes because that's why you go to school — to find a job."

Bodnar's worry is not unfounded. The job market for financial services ranks among the worst according to Luckenbaugh. Communications and auto industries also rank low, while engineering, accounting and government jobs rank highly, Luckenbaugh said, citing a survey from NACE.

The airline and travel industry has been hit hard by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, according to Beck. He said, however, that the attacks have been used as a corporate scapegoat for poor economic performance.

According to a NACE survey in October, 66.5 percent of employers said the attacks will have no effect on their college recruiting plans for the year.

Sept. 11, however, did alter the way businesses contact students, Luckenbaugh said. Many recruiters, she said, have limited air travel and are making fewer campus visits. This makes it necessary to find alternate ways to contact students. Recruiters are using more phone interviews, more teleconferences and more Web-based methods, the NACE reported.

Jeff Fouts, financial adviser for the Frontier Financial Consultants Inc. in Muncie, said the job market should start turning around by this fall. He said manufacturing earnings are already starting to make a comeback and that people are starting to build and buy homes again. Unfortunately, he said, the public is still cautious and slow to invest. Fouts said he blames this on the media.

"A lot of the information that's out there for the general public is spun, and the public isn't as aware as they ought to be," he said.

According to Fouts, when people become more informed, they will invest more, and the job market should make a turnaround.

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Arts & Entertainment

MOVIES IN REVIEW

'Birthday' surprisingly good

From Staff Reports
Daily Texan (U. Texas-Austin)

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN, Texas - The age of 30 is historically a very decisive year for actresses. Some, like Marilyn Monroe, Elizabeth Taylor, or Audrey Hepburn, have exploded into stardom. Others have fallen off the face of the earth.

Celebrating her 30th birthday in 1997, Nicole Kidman's fate was rather uncertain. But along with last year's success of Moulin Rouge and The Others, I'm happy to inform you that she has provided us with yet another stunning performance in a rather unexpected role.

The film begins as John Buckingham (Ben Chaplin, Lost Souls and The Thin Red Line), a lonely bank clerk, essentially purchases a wife on the Internet, through a service called, "From Russia With Love." Enter Nadia (Nicole Kidman), whose knowledge of the English language extends to the word, "yes," but who seems to want nothing more than to love and be loved by her British husband, before two friends of hers, Yuri (Vincent Cassel) and Alexei (Matthieu Kassovitz) arrive and everything goes to hell.

Needless to say, the premise is unique, and writers Jez and Tom Butterworth did a wonderful job of taking the storyline to new levels. Though the tribulations of a mail-order bride could have been enough to sustain a film, Birthday Girl is made all the more enjoyable by the plot twist that is reminiscent of a less violent, more subtle, British interpretation of a Quentin Tarantino film.

That makes for a rather unique blend. Unlike most British films, which tend to be less glamorous and far more theme-driven than American films, Birthday Girl doesn't take the dark tone that British filmmakers tend to adopt. Even though it's set in a country in which the weather forecast is "gloomy" 250 days out of the year, the somewhat uplifting tone combines with the charismatic performances of our four principle actors to make for a particularly enjoyable experience.

That said, if you're the sort of person who revels in dampening your enjoyment of a film by actively predicting its outcome, you won't have any trouble here. Though the plot twists will be appreciated by those who just sit back and absorb the film, they are not altogether unexpected, especially if you're finely attuned to that sort of thing. Though I would hesitate to call Birthday Girl brilliant, it is a wonderful film, and even though it doesn't deserve a place in the AFI top 100, but it does do a beautiful job complement Kidman's graceful step toward her mid-30s.

MUSIC IN REVIEW

by Mark A. Relano

Mick Jagger: *Goddess in the Doorway*

Mick Jagger has released his fourth studio effort: *Goddess in the Doorway*. The Rolling Stones singer seems to have called up (or e-mailed) many of his musical friends and acquaintances to appear on his solo project. Perhaps Jagger is trying to recreate the same magic as Santana's *Supernatural*; he enlists Rob Thomas and Wyclef Jean, two of the collaborators on Santana's multi-Grammy winning CD.

Relatively unknown musician and songwriter, Matt Clifford, co-writes four songs with Jagger and co-produces almost half of the tracks on his latest outing. Clifford has talent: his string arrangements on "Visions of Paradise" and "Everybody Getting High" are superb. "Visions of Paradise" is probably the best song on the entire CD and is jointly written by Clifford, Jagger and Rob Thomas of Matchbox 20. Thomas also sings back-up.

Goddess in the Doorway is a solid disc of good Rock and Pop tunes, but don't expect any lyrical revelations or far-reaching, musical experimentation. The only stretch for the seasoned Jagger is the collaboration with Lenny Kravitz on the first single, "God Gave Me Everything."

The "Lord of Lips" allows Kravitz to exclusively produce the enjoyable and contagious song, but Kravitz plays practically all the instruments. Although I like this track, if you haven't heard it and want to get an idea of how it sounds, just replace Jagger's voice with Kravitz's on his latest hit "Dig In." While "God Gave Me Everything" was written jointly by both musicians, it's unquestionably Kravitz's baby.

Perhaps another song that displays Jagger's slight attempt at diversity is "Joy." The song is infectious and inspirational and sounds like an amalgam of The Rolling Stones and U2—with a little Gospel, R&B and Soul tossed in. This is not coincidental, because although Jagger wrote the track himself, Bono, of U2, shares lead vocals. This is my second favorite track.

Guitar great Pete Townshend of The Who makes two appearances on *Goddess in the Doorway.* The first is on the previously mentioned "Joy," and the second is on a track entitled "Gun." Another axe grinder, Joe Perry, of Aerosmith, contributes his rock finesse to "Everybody Getting High" and "Too Far Gone." Jagger even has two of his daughters sing back-up on the final track: "Brand New Set of Rules."

There are a couple of tracks on Jagger's latest disc that don't quite thrill me, but, of course, music is subjective. However, the tune "Lucky Day" is rather annoying—mainly due to Jagger's whiny crescendos and decrescendos. Likewise, the title cut, "Goddess in the Doorway," is mediocre at best and does not send me—but to each his (or her) own.

Overall, *Goddess in the Doorway* is a decent solo project for The Rolling Stones' front man. If you like The Rolling Stones and/or Jagger's other solo projects, you'll appreciate his latest CD. But don't look for too much out of the ordinary from the once excessively flamboyant Jagger, because he is mellowing in his old age, and his music reflects it.

That does not mean it's a bad thing, though. Many musicians mellow out over the years, and, quite frankly, Jagger has taken longer than most to join those ranks. His new perspective is evidenced in the accommodating and subdued lyrics on the last track of his disc:

"You'll be so proud so proud of me, / You'll see the change so plain to see / Because of you a brand new start / Because of you a change of heart... I got a brand new set of rules / I got to learn."

DMX: *The Great Depression*

It's difficult to review *The Great Depression* by Earl Simmons a.k.a. DMX. The songs on this disc are so dichotomous in nature, that it takes tremendous patience and empathy to sort it all out. The music is Rap, undoubtedly, but the lyrics are antithetical and complementary, poignant and profane, confusing and encouraging.

It would be a heck of a lot easier to comprehend and accept DMX's dilemmas, ideas and confessions if he didn't use the "n" word and the "f" word, or a derivative of it, every two seconds. I haven't heard this many expletives since I worked as a banquet server at a hotel and had to work a truckers' convention.

I am the first one to say that if a "chair" had been called a " uck" and a "_uck" a "chair," no one would be offended by the word " uck." But the superfluous profanities on *The Great Depression* surpass anything I've ever heard; there are entire tracks on DMX's CD based on vulgarities. DMX utilizes as many curse words as he does regular words.

The tracks "Trina Moe" and "We Right Here," my two least liked songs, mirror Jay-Z, Ludacris and two-thirds of the rappers out there—each claiming his or her absolute, aggrandized MC status. The impudent and egocentric lyrics in about half the tracks are redundant, unoriginal and self-inflating: they're also hypocritical to the religious or ingenuous lyrics.

Putting all that aside, I still liked about half the tracks on *The Great Depression*. I was first attracted to reviewing the CD when I saw the video for "Who We Be" on MTV. The video and the lyrics both conjure up images of turmoil and release, perplexity and hope.

In "Who We Be," the first single released, DMX raps about life in the projects. The track describes what he and many young, inner-city blacks have to endure and the choices, or lack thereof, that have to be made. He also addresses incarceration and his ambivalent feelings for his parents. "Who We Be" also offers some chance for salvation and recompense as seen in the following excerpt:

"The silence, the dark, the mind, so fragile / The wish, that the streets, would have took you when they had you / The days, the

CON'T ON NEXT PAGE

Enjoy a Good Book

The Book Club is a chance for students to read for leisure.

by Jessica Williams
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

SAINT LEO – Are you one of the many students who enjoys reading a good book for leisure? If so, then Saint Leo University has the perfect opportunity for you, the Book Club.

Dr. Kathryn Duncan, English professor, started the Book Club last semester at Saint Leo. This was a great way for Duncan to get to know the students, since this is her first year here.

"I started the book club last semester as a chance for students to read for fun. It is made up of interested students, and all are welcome to join. In fact, I hope more students will participate this term," explained Duncan.

Last semester, eight students participated in the Book Club. Most of these students were freshman, so upperclassmen are welcome to join this semester. The club began by reading The Red Tent by Anita Diamant. This book is a New York Times bestseller that retells the story of Jacob from The Bible.

"The Red Tent was very interesting. I learned how women were treated when they had their period and the tradition of the first time for a girl," described Marilyn Martillo, a first year student.

It is not too late to join because their next book discussion will not be until the first couple of weeks in February. The book of choice is Ernesto Che Guevara's The Motorcycle Diaries. This book describes Guevara's journeys. There are four copies of this book left, so there is still time to get your own copy and join the discussion. Contact Dr. Duncan about getting a copy.

Dr. Kathryn Duncan started the Book Club last semester. (Shane Metzler / SLU)

Duncan explained that the books read are the students' choice.

"I solemnly promise never to make anyone read Shakespeare unless the group wants to, and never to lecture," she said.

As for the future of the club, Duncan said there would be two books a semester and one over the summer. She also stated that if the students want, they could read a short story.

"I consider myself more a member of the club than its leader, so it's up to the students to decide these things," she said.

The students have glowing reviews of the club.

"I think that if you enjoy some time reading about an adventure or another culture it becomes delightful as well as educational. I would definitely recommend this club to others," stated Martillo.

If anyone is interested in joining the Book Club for this term, contact Dr. Duncan at Kathryn.Duncan@saintleo.edu or (352) 588-8395.

Music Reviews Con't

months, the years, the despair / One night, on my knees, here it comes, the prayer." The chorus then chimes in and repeats the line, "They don't know / Who we be."

When the verse begins again, DMX's lyrics are even more ingenuous: "This here is all about my wife, my kids, the life that I lived, / To the night I was His, it was right what I did / My ups, and downs, my slips, my falls, / My trials and tribulations, my heart, my walls. / My mother, my father, I love them, I hate 'em, / I wish to God I didn't have 'em / But I'm glad that He made 'em."

The track goes on to describe the volatile life on the street and the necessity of becoming cold and hard in order to survive. I love this track—it's honest, open, real, impassioned, aggressive and catchy. It reveals the severity of gang life, without the misconceptions and without the hype that some rappers would have youngsters believe exists.

Some of my other personal preferences on *The Great Depression* are "Sometimes," a spoken poem; "School Street," a list of other rappers; "Bloodline Anthem," a hard rock track with impertinence as its message; "When I'm Nothing," an up-tempo, dance and disco number, with Stephanie Mills ("Never Knew Love Like This Before") singing the chorus; and, "I Miss You," the second release off DMX's CD, which features Faith Evans.

In "I Miss You," DMX sings to his deceased grandmother (perhaps in prayer or kneeling at her grave site) and catches her up on the family. He tells her how much he loves, needs and respects her, and how her positive influence has affected his life and given him the desire to be a good person.

DMX thanks his grandmother for the Bible and for the two beatings she gave him, that hurt her way more than it did him. The tune has Evans singing the refrain but then toward the end, the chorus segues into "Amazing Grace"—a song that Simmons' grandmother used to "sing in the morning."

This song is another example of DMX's ability to create important songs with meaning. The track is touching, candid and enjoyable—despite a few swears. In "The Prayer IV," DMX asks God to forgive him for being new at prayer and also importunes God to give him time to adjust to the new life he is trying to live.

The spoken word track, "The Prayer IV" then moves into the song, "A Minute for Your Son"—a continuation of the prayer to God in rap. There are three hidden tracks after the credited final track. The first one should have stayed hidden; the other two are okay.

The Great Depression is not for everyone. The dramatic content, both in profanities and in context, is not universal, but many of the tracks do have essential messages that stir emotions, evoke contemplation and provide entertainment. You can always use the remote to skip any of the tracks that you find offensive, but to eliminate the entire CD based on its profane verbiage is to miss out on eight or nine tracks of inspired brilliance. Sometimes you have to pan through the mire to find the gold.

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Poet Visits Campus

SAINT LEO, FLA. - Pulitzer Prize winning poet Stephen Dunn will share his poetry at Saint Leo University, during a reading on Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. in Selby Auditorium. The event is part of the Saint Leo Lecture Series and is sponsored by the Tampa Tribune. The reading is free and open to the public.

Dunn, a distinguished professor of creative writing from Richard Stockton College in New Jersey, won the 2001 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry for his collection of poems Different Hours. He authored eleven books of poetry, including Loosestrife, New and Selected Poems, Landscape at the End of the Century and Between Angels. In his most recent work, Dunn explores the different hours of the human experience and the larger historical and philosophical life beyond the personal.

Dunn earned his bachelor's degree in history and English from Hofstra University and his master's degree in creative writing from Syracuse University. He has been the Woodrow Wilson fellow in poetry at various colleges, a Lila Wallace fellow in poetry at Wartburg College, poet-in-residence at Wichita State University, visiting poet at University of Washington, poet-in-residence to Woodrow Wilson fellows at Princeton and poet-in-residence at the University of Michigan in Spring 2001.

Sports

NCAA May Adopt Stricter Eligibility Rules

The National Collegiate Athletic Association presented measures that would toughen academic requirements for Division I athletes at its annual convention last week in Indianapolis.

Daily Texan (U. Texas-Austin)

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN, Texas — The proposals included changing both initial eligibility and continuing requirements for athletes. Continuing requirements are the minimum academic standards athletes must meet to compete in sports and receive financial aid. The NCAA should release formal proposals by April.

Initial eligibility is currently determined by a sliding scale that weighs SAT and ACT scores and high school GPAs. Once accepted, a student must complete 13 basic courses that make up an athlete's core curriculum. Athletes have to finish 25 percent of their degree requirements before their third year, 50 percent before their fourth year and 75 percent before their fifth year.

Despite these requirements, low graduation rates among athletes persist, according to the most recent NCAA graduation statistics. Jane Jankowski, NCAA spokeswoman, said possible proposals include changing the percentage of a student's degree that must be completed by the third, fourth and fifth years.

"One of the suggestions is to require that student athletes meet a 40-, 60-, 80-percent degree completion requirement with the GPA required to graduate," Jankowski said.

Jankowski added that currently, 90 percent of an athlete's courses must meet the university's minimum GPA. New academic standards may require that athletes meet the university's minimum GPA in all their courses.

The athletes at the University of Texas must maintain the same minimum academic requirements as other UT students, said Chris Plonsky, UT senior associate athletic director.

"There is a high demand to remember that college athletes operate in an academic environment," she said. "Athletes have to be as highly competitive in the classroom as on the playing field in order to succeed here."

Cedric Benson, a Longhorn running back, said he is satisfied with current continuing academic requirements.

"I don't think they're too one-sided," he said. "No pass, no play is a fair rule to have."

Jankowski said the changes should improve graduation rates among collegiate athletes.

"The intent of the strengthening of the current eligibility requirements is to help ensure that student athletes are making progress toward graduating and that they do not get off track," she said.

The NCAA compiles graduation reports for all Division I schools as mandated by federal law, Jankowski said.

"There is discussion about the way those graduation rates are reported and how they might be changed," she said.

Plonsky said graduation data is not personalized and doesn't account for situations in which an athlete transfers or leaves college to pursue a career.

While improving graduation rates is one aspect of the NCAA changes, others aim to ensure fair eligibility standards.

Possible changes to initial NCAA academic requirements include making the eligibility scale more flexible due to claims that standardized tests discriminate against minorities. Students with lower-than-minimum standardized test scores could qualify as Division I athletes if they had higher GPAs. Jankowski agreed with the need to re-evaluate initial eligibility requirements.

"Part of the reason for the suggested changes is because NCAA research has shown that students with lower standardized test scores and higher GPAs have just as high a success rate towards graduation as students who meet the minimum requirements," she said.

She said the initial eligibility changes would not affect a large number of students.

Benson said he feels standardized testing can be discriminatory.

"Some weight should be taken off," said Benson, a liberal arts freshman. "Those tests really aren't for every student."

Student Athletes Seeking Benefits

by Susannah Rosenblatt
Old Gold and Black (Wake Forest U.)

(U-WIRE) WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Laborers being exploited to rake in profits for a huge multibillion-dollar corporation. It sounds like a Third World country or 19th factory life, not the National Collegiate Athletics Association.

But according to a new organization, the Collegiate Athletes Coalition, that is exactly how the NCAA treats its Division I athletes.

The CAC is a group co-founded last spring by former UCLA football players Ramogi Huma and Ryan Roques. Huma and Roques created the CAC, which has garnered the support of the United Steelworkers of America, with student-athlete advocacy in mind.

The organization's goals include full health care during the off-season and voluntary practices; increasing the current $10,000 NCAA life insurance coverage; increasing monthly stipends, altering the $2,000 offseason wage cap and assisting student-athletes find post-college careers. The medical demands carry added significance with the recent deaths of Northwestern and Florida State football players due to effects caused by physical exertion during practices.

Since last spring, the CAC has attracted about 70 members, mostly UCLA football players and more recently the Stanford men's basketball team. Although initial membership remains low, Huma hopes to attract six to eight Division I football programs by the next season, eventually reaching out to all 5,000 Division I schools in a variety of sports.

"We hope to build a national organization that can have an impact on the NCAA that will make the institution better and that will improve the athletic and academic careers of all college athletes," Huma told the UCLA Daily Bruin.

Women Athletes Honored at Sports Banquet

SAINT LEO, FLA. - Saint Leo University recognizes the achievements of women athletes at the annual Girls and Women in Sports banquet and awards ceremony Feb. 7 at 6:30 p.m. The event's theme, "Celebrating 30 Years of Title IX" celebrates the advances in women athletics programs.

Seven student athletes will be awarded athletics scholarships for their continued hard work in their sport and in the classroom, and Dr. G. Jean Cerra, vice provost for academic services and dean of the school of human performance and leisure sciences at Barry University, will be honored as the ninth recipient of the Saint Leo University Women in Sports Achievement Award.

As the first female athletic director in the Sunshine State Conference, Dr. Cerra served on the NCAA Management Council when Division II was restructured and helped form the Title IX program that exists today throughout NCAA schools. She worked countless hours from the beginning to structure what is in place now for women student athletes and continues to be a national leader.

This is the 10th year Saint Leo has participated in the program for National Girls and Women in Sports Day. The event was created nationally in 1987 as a day to remember Olympic volleyball great Flo Hyman for her athletic achievements and the struggles of girls and women in sports. The day has evolved into an opportunity to call attention to the positive influence of sport participation and the achievements of all girls and women in sports.